<u>Listing of Claims</u>:

1.   (original)   A method for securely communicating with a server program using a secure hypertext transfer protocol which by default uses a first port number associated therewith, said method practiced in connection with a hypertext transfer protocol which defaults to the use of a second port number associated therewith, said method comprising:

(a)   configuring the server program so that it listens for requests for secure hypertext transfer protocol sessions on the second port number rather than the first port number;

(b)   receiving at the server program on the second port number a first data packet in a manner that is consistent with the secure hypertext transfer protocol, except that the request is received on the second port number rather than the first port number;

(c)   outputting from the server program a response to the first data packet in a manner that is consistent with the secure hypertext transfer protocol, except that the request was received on the second port number rather than the first port number.

2.   (original)   The method of claim 1 wherein the secure hypertext transfer protocol is the https protocol and the hypertext transfer protocol is the http protocol.

3.   (original)   The method of claim 1 wherein the first port number is 443 and the second port number is 80.

4.   (original)   The method of claim 1 wherein, before the first data packet is received by the server program on the second port, it passes through a system that is configured in a manner that would block the first data packet if the first data packet were addressed to the first port.

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5.   (original)   The method of claim 1 further comprising the following additional step:

after step (a), directing a client program to request information from the server program using a resource locator comprising an indication to use the secure hypertext transfer protocol and an indication to use the second port number.

6.   (original)   The method of claim 4 further comprising the following additional step:

after step (a), directing a client program to request information from the server program using a resource locator comprising an indication to use the secure hypertext transfer protocol and an indication to use the second port number.

7.   (original)   The method of claim 1 further comprising the following additional step:

after step (a), directing a client program to post information to the server program using a resource locator comprising an indication to use the secure hypertext transfer protocol and an indication to use the second port number.

8.   (original)   The method of claim 4 further comprising the following additional step:

after step (a), directing a client program to post information to the server program using a resource locator comprising an indication to use the secure hypertext transfer protocol and an indication to use the second port number.

9.   (original)   The method of claim 1 wherein at least one step is performed using the Internet.

10.   (original)   A method for operating a web server system comprising:

(a) configuring the web server system to use port 80 for communications using a protocol selected from the group consisting of: secure socket layer, secure sockets layer, SSL, secure hypertext transfer protocol, and HTTPS,

(b) receiving at port 80 at the web server system a first data packet that is formatted in accordance with the protocol; and

(c) responding to the first data packet with a second data packet that is formatted in accordance with the protocol.

11.   (original)   A web server system comprising:

(a) web server software configured to use port 80 for communications using a protocol selected from the group consisting of: secure socket layer, secure sockets layer, SSL, secure hypertext transfer protocol, and HTTPS,

(b) means for receiving at port 80 at the web server system a first data packet that is formatted in accordance with the protocol; and

(c) means for responding to the first data packet with a second data packet that is formatted in accordance with the protocol.